

Radical

Lesson 9: The Radical Experiment

DAY 1

Read Chapter 9

Memory Verse: Jesus said to his disciples, “The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.” Matt. 9:37-38 (NLT)

Context: Now that we have completed this study of the claims made by *Radical*, it is time to determine if we are ready to make a commitment to participate in God’s plan of carrying the gospel message to all people groups, even to the ends of the earth. This chapter calls on each member to consider each claim, then to make a personal commitment to join the Radical Experiment for one year.

The Radical Experiment: Before considering your answers on the sheet entitled “My Radical Experiment,” consider the five challenges below and pray first about whether this is a challenge you are willing to accept and then how God would have you fulfill the commitment. Make this a week-long project by praying for one challenge each day.

Over the next year, you are called to commit to...

1. Pray for the entire world
2. Read through the entire Word
3. Sacrifice your money for a specific purpose
4. Spend your time in another context
5. Commit your life to a multiplying community

If you accept the challenge to pray for the world, you can purchase *Operation World* by Jason Mandryk, a terrific tool for carrying out this project. They are available for \$_____ each. Or you can visit www.operationworld.com and accomplish the same challenge.

If you accept the challenge to read through the entire Word in one year, here are some web pages where you can access reading plans.

<http://www.oneyearbibleonline.com/>

<http://www.ewordtoday.com/year/>

<http://www.backtothebible.org/index.php/Bible-Reading-Guides.html>

<http://www.inallthingspray.net/biblepathway/newuser.asp>

If you prefer to listen to someone else read while you follow along (especially in light of the challenging names and words in the OT, here are web sites where you can download or listen to the Bible being read. If you need help with this, ask _____.

<http://www.audiotreasure.com/indexKJV.htm>

<http://bible.cbn.com/>

<http://www.biblica.com/bibles/audio/niv/>

<http://www.ffmp3.com/kjv.asp> (Recommended)

<http://dailyaudiobible.com/>

http://godsipod.com/bible_podcasts/audio-bible/

DAY 2

Focal Passage: Matthew 9:35-38

Supporting Passages: 2 Cor. 4.4-6; Matt. 6.9-21; 2 Tim. 3.16-17; Mark 10.29-30

Biblical Truth: When the day of judgment arrives, "...we will wish we had given more of ourselves to living for the day when every nation, tribe, people, and language will bow around the throne and sing the praises of the Savior who delights in radical obedience and God who deserves eternal worship." (p. 217)

1. *Radical* has made several claims throughout the book. Complete each claim below. (p. 183)
 - Real success is found in radical **s**_____.
 - Ultimate **s**_____ is found not in making much of ourselves but in making much of God.
 - The **p**_____ of our lives transcends the country and culture in which we live.
 - Meaning is found in **c**_____, not individualism; joy is found in **g**_____, not materialism; and truth is found in **C**_____, not universalism.
 - Ultimately, Jesus is a reward worth risking **e**_____ to know, experience, and enjoy.
2. Jesus modeled discipleship. Compare Matt. 9.35 with His commandment to the disciples in Matt. 10.7-8. What similarities do you find between Jesus' mission and that He gave to the disciples?

3. How does the message change when the focus is on the gospel of the kingdom of God and not on the gospel of the salvation of men? How does this affect our motive and our method of doing missions? (Review "Radical Abandonment," p. 10, and "Who We Really Are," p. 30)

4. Read Matt. 9.36. When Jesus saw the vast numbers of people who had no knowledge of the message of the kingdom of God, what was His response? Once again, look for the parallel between the way Jesus viewed the multitudes and the way He instructed the disciples to view the lost of Israel. (Compare Ezekiel 34.1-6)

DAY 3

1. Jesus gave the disciples relatively detailed instructions for carrying out the mission in Matthew 10. But the first thing He called on them to do in Matthew 9.38 was to **p**_____.
2. Review the memory verse once again. Notice that Jesus did not instruct the disciples to pray for the harvest – for the results of their labors – but for **I**_____ who would go and gather the harvest that He was creating.

3. When it came to preparing for the mission, why would Jesus instruct the disciples to pray more for the church than for those who were lost? (End of ¶ 2, p. 187)

4. What is the evidence that we have not been praying as Jesus said we should? (¶ 3, p. 187)

5. In your own words, what does David Platt mean by saying that the church has settled for “Bible lite”? (p. 191)

DAY 4

1. One of the ways *Radical* says that we can become sacrificial in giving is put a cap on our lifestyle. What would have to change in order for you to put a cap on your lifestyle so that you could increase your “standard of giving”?

2. List the four factors David Platt suggested when deciding where and how to give. (p.195)

- 1)

- 2)

- 3)

- 4)

3. To understand how important it is for us to go – to be personally and actively involved in missions – think back to how you were brought into the kingdom of God. Was it through reading certain material, such as a tract, listening to a recording, or the result of personal interaction with someone explaining the meaning of the gospel message?

4. Recall the story told in the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John). What was God’s primary method of demonstrating His grace to the world?

5. Place a check beside the method(s) below which should produce the desired effect of the call to missions? Place a ✓ next to your answer(s).

- Sending up our prayers
- Sending our money
- Sending material resources
- Sending live missionaries

DAY 5

1. Our goal should not just be to organize and control a series of missions efforts, but to **e**_____ members to start, manage, and **l**_____ missions to all parts of the field. (p. 199)
2. Going on missions is not a calling; it is a **c**_____. (p. 200)
3. If we are serious about answering God's call to missions and being radical in our commitment, how should we change the way we view our professions and our areas of expertise? (p. 203)

4. If we are serious about being successful in our growth as disciples and our service as missionaries, how do we need to view the role of the church in our development and success?

5. What are the four major things we need to do together as a church if we are to be successful in fulfilling the Great Commission? (p. 206)
 - 1) _____
 - 2) _____
 - 3) _____
 - 4) Pray desperately